

# Horticultural Points

## SOME COMMON LADY BEETLES

Bugs Are Among Best Friends of Plant Grower as They Feed Upon Various Noxious Insects.

(By W. E. BRITTON, Connecticut State Entomologist.)

The beetles commonly known as lady beetles, "lady birds" or "lady bugs" or plant-louse beetles are among the best friends of the farmer or plant grower, because they feed in both larval and adult stages upon plant lice, scale insects and the small larva and eggs of other and larger noxious insects. With the exception of one species, Epi-



A, Beetle; b, Larva; c, Pupa; d, Blossom End of Scale-Infested Pear, Showing Beetles and Their Larva Feeding Upon the Scales.

lachna borealis Fabr., known as the squash lady beetle, all lady beetles occurring in Connecticut are carnivorous and predatory, feeding on the smaller insects many of which are pests of cultivated plants. Hence we call them beneficial. Dr. S. A. Forbes examined the stomach contents of 39 specimens, and found that one-fourth of their food was composed of plant lice; though they ate some vegetable food such as pollen and spores of fungi, a greater portion of their food consisted of insects.

Though many persons are more or less familiar with lady beetles, some are not acquainted with their habits or life histories, and do not, therefore, recognize them as friends.

## CROPS TO GROW IN ORCHARD

Ideal Method is Not to Grow Any Cultivated Crop Between Trees—Some Can Be Grown.

The ideal method of handling the young orchard is not to grow any cultivated crops between the trees at all. This will allow them to be cultivated both ways all during summer, which is very desirable. Carefully done, however, some of the hood crops, like potatoes, strawberries, cabbage, etc., can be grown without injuring the trees to any great extent. These crops more than pay for the expense of cultivating the trees. Not more than three rows should be placed between two peach rows. When the trees begin to

bear fruit, these crops should be left off entirely, except possibly two or three rows of peas between the peach rows.

In no case should the trees be stunted or neglected in any way by growing crops in the orchard. Such crops as corn and grain should be left off entirely as they draw heavily on the soil and rob the trees of both food and moisture.

## CULTIVATE ALL FRUIT TREES

While Young They Should Be Given as Much Attention as Any Other Crop on the Farm.

Fruit trees respond as readily and definitely to cultivation as do garden vegetables and grain crops, and, while young, they should be cultivated with as much care as any other crop. Experiments by agricultural scientists have shown that fruits breathe, and that cold storage delays their ripening by causing them to breathe more slowly than when warm. If an orchard is given as much care as grain and other crops—if it be carefully pruned and sprayed and the ground properly cultivated, especially the first year, there will be no disappointment as to yield, both in quantity and quality.

## SOME SPRAYING 'DON'TS.'

Don't forget to spray.  
Don't spray just for the sake of doing something! At best spraying is only precautionary and must be applied in advance of the expected attack of pests.  
Don't neglect the fertility of the soil. Plants must "eat" to live.  
Don't expect the plants and trees to take care of themselves; cultivate, prune and spray.  
Trees and plants are easily grown, and will make life brighter.

## OAKFIELD

Fine growing weather now. Oakfield Center school closed last week.

Memorial services at the chapel were well attended although weather was rather gloomy in the forenoon. Mrs. Arthur Rowley and Mrs. Harry Conant of Belding attended the services at the chapel and in the latter part of the day visited the latter's mother, Mrs. Stitts.

M. Stevens and family went to Nelson Center Sunday and stayed over Monday to help his father celebrate his birthday.

Frank Deal and family of Edmore spent Sunday with his parents, J. Deal and wife.

Will Wilson and family of Blanchard and Mrs. A. Crawford of Battle Creek were here for Memorial day and were guests of their mother, Mrs. Hill.

Mrs. S. A. Havens and Mrs. Stults were dinner guests of Mrs. Sleno last Sunday. In the afternoon they all visited their neighbor, Mrs. Clark, who is quite feeble. Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Brown were also visitors there.

P. J. Peterson is quite ill. Mr. Davis is also ill.

Oakfield Gleaner arbor has a service flag with four stars.

Children's day exercises at Ashley church next Sunday.

Thomas Anderson and wife of Greenville visited at Jud Wellman's a couple of days last week.

## The Whole Hole.

You cannot buy a doughnut And eat the doughnut whole, Unless you eat the doughnut And leave the doughnut hole.

# Orchard Information

## PROTECT YOUNG FRUIT TREES

Snow Should Be Firmly Packed to Prevent Girdling by Rabbits and Field Mice.

The one and two-year old fruit trees, should have the snow firmly packed around each tree, grapevine, currant and gooseberry bush. Unless this is done, the trees may be girdled by rabbits above the snow line and the field mice under the snow.

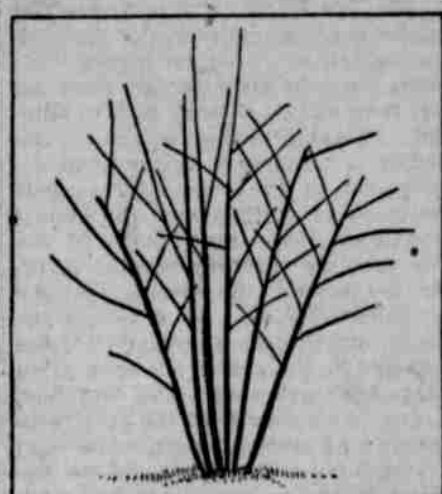
Much the better method is to have each tree and bush wrapped with a strip of tarred paper from six inches below the surface of the ground to 20 inches above the ground. Common brown paper may be used if the better quality cannot be had. It takes but a few minutes to wrap each tree.

Where the winters are severe and the snow deep, the tender bark of the large fruiting trees is often gnawed. The trunk of the tree and often the branches have the greater part of the bark completely destroyed. Field mice are more destructive than the rabbits, as they work under the snow and are much more numerous.

## TIME TO PRUNE RASPBERRIES

Work Must Be Done at Two Seasons of Year in Order to Accomplish the Best Results.

Because of its manner of fruit bearing, the black raspberry requires care in its annual pruning; in fact, pruning must be done at two seasons of the year in order to accomplish the best results. The young shoots as they appear from the roots in the spring should be tipped or disbudded when they reach the height of 18 inches. It is better to go over the plantations frequently, making three or four trips in all, in order to tip the canes when they are about the height mentioned, rather than to delay the operation until some of them have reached a height of 2 to 2½ feet. The early pinching or disbudding induces the development of more numerous lateral branches. Shoots which have been allowed to harden and to grow to 2 or 3 feet in height will form few lateral branches. If tipped when 18 inches high, a cane should produce four, five or six lateral branches. If allowed to attain a height of 3 feet and then cut back to 18 inches, it is probable that not more than two or three lateral branches will be formed; and, since these lateral



Typical Raspberry After Pruning.

branches form the fruit-bearing wood of the succeeding season, it is very desirable that the greatest possible number of branches be secured to insure a heavy crop of fruit. It is evident, therefore, that summer pruning predetermines the crop for the succeeding year more than does any other single cultural factor.

The second pruning, which is also important, consists in removing the canes which bore the last crop of fruit. This work can be done at any time after the crop has been harvested, but preferably during the spring following the crop.

## DISEASES OF PEACH TREES

Brown Rot and Scab Held Fairly Well in Check by Use of Lime-Sulphur Spray.

Brown rot and scab in peaches have been fairly well held in check in New Jersey by the use of the self-bolled lime-sulphur spray, but the best possible results have not always been obtained because the spray injured the trees in summer, so that growers put off the summer application. Now they have worked out a new preparation which has given satisfaction as a summer fungicide without injuring the trees. It is made by mixing eight pounds of fine dry sulphur with four and one-half ounces of ground glue in three gallons of water, then thoroughly incorporating the two mixtures and adding the whole with water to make 50 gallons.

## RABBIT DAMAGE IN ORCHARD

Given Credit for More Harm Than They Are Guilty of as Rule—Mice Do Most Injury.

Rabbits usually do less damage in orchards than they are credited with. In very young orchards or in nurseries they sometimes cut off the young branches and may occasionally gnaw the bark, but as a rule they do less damage than mice.

# MOTHER TELLS OF HER TRIP TO CAMP MERRITT

MANY TOUCHING SCENES ARE ENACTED IN BIG MILITARY CITY, CAMP MERRITT, N. J.

Mrs. Spencer Cowles has written a continuation of her experiences and impressions of Camp Merritt, N. J., to which both herself and Mr. Cowles went some time ago to see their son, Charles, who enlisted early in the war and who, after being stationed for a long time at Douglas, Arizona, was being sent to France, by way of Camp Merritt, N. J.

Mrs. Cowles' letter is as follows: As I stated before Camp Merritt is situated upon the very crest of a steep hill, an ideal place for an army camp but it does not remind one of a camp; it is more like a great city going up. There was building after building that had all been erected since last September so our landlady, Mrs. Beveridge, informed me, that on the first of September there was a sign of a camp and on Thanksgiving day there were already 6,000 men stationed there. At the time of our visit there were erecting a hospital to accommodate 6,000 wounded men. We were also told that all our boys wounded that could possibly be brought over would be transported there and cared for. This hospital is being built right on the very edge of a cliff where the rocks slope steeply down a distance of about 300 feet and below there used to be a stone quarry; there used to be an observation tower upon this cliff, from where one could look over this ridge into three different states, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, a most sightly place, truly an ideal spot for a hospital. This hospital is also to be equipped with sun-parlors and X-ray appliances, in fact every conceivable appliance that the medical science has invented will be installed here to be used for the restoration of those brave boys and truly it is not too much when we stop to consider the great sacrifice our brave soldiers and sailors are making. But, oh, indeed this was a busy place; we could hear the hammers from early morning until night and a small army of carpenters at work the morning that we left Camp Merritt there were three coaches of steel carpenters who got off the station. These men all busy on the buildings. The Red Cross is erecting its building; we never can conceive the great merciful work this great organization is doing and mothers and fathers of America, wives and sweethearts, let there not be a day pass but what we give a prayer of thanksgiving to think that this great arm of mercy is established that will go among the din of the battle roar to care for our wounded boys and to stand by them perhaps in their last struggles in life; so let us give all we possibly can; let's not do our bit but our utmost and indeed we cannot do too much to help support this grand order. Then there is the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. which are also doing a great work and worthy of all the support we can give it and the K. of C., this noble order is also foremost in its zeal for the welfare of our men and is not doing its bit but its utmost; also the Jewish and Hebrew Mission; all these organizations are striving nobly together for the purpose of helping to bear the burden of this cruel war to help provide comforts for our brave men and what an inspiration it must be to our fighting forces. How inviting the Christian Science rest cottage looked to us, weary and tired as we were, with the words "Welcome" all over its doorways printed in large letters presumably so all could see and take notice and avail themselves of the opportunity. The sad recollections of the hostess house were so deeply impressed in our memory that I think they will always remain; one sweet faced little woman who asked me if I had found my soldier boy told me in her soft southern accent that she had come from southern Kentucky in response to a telegram from her boy that he could not get a furlough and was leaving for France. She said, I came yesterday; I have had my boy for just two hours; today he is doing guard duty and tomorrow, I must return as I have six other children, a baby of two years among them that she had left for the father to take care of. She stated that when they received this telegram the father says, you go, mother, you are the mother; to the boy and she smilingly informed me that she thought the brief time she had spent with her boy was worth it indeed, faithful little mother. We wondered how they could have sent 20,000 men from this camp to France the Friday before we reached there on April 3 but that is nothing out of the ordinary when there are troops trains coming in and the while filled with soldiers from all directions to refill the vacancies if any; the government's truck are steadily trucking in supplies to this great cantonment. When our boy, Charles, came from Douglas, Arizona there were two batteries aboard his troop train, Battery B and Battery G of the 10th Field Artillery; each battery consists of 190 men besides their officers, so there were something over 400 men aboard; he said they went along fine until after they left Kansas City; that as they were making a down grade the brakemen tried to apply the brakes but discovered that some miserable spies had pulled the brake screws so they were unable to set the brakes and consequently had to run at the rate of about 87 miles per hour; he thought that this must have been done at Kansas City where they ran on an elevation to take water. No one knew how this could possibly have been done when their troop trains are very closely guarded, not even the train crew being allowed in the coaches, the M. P.'s stationed at every door, no one allowed in or out, yet the spies get in their treacherous work.

Well, I asked my son, whatever saved all aboard from death and destruction, well, he smilingly replied that he told some of the boys he guessed it was as mother used to say out home that their time hadn't come yet; farther he told me that this brake difficulty was adjusted as soon

as possible. It required five days and nights for them to make the journey from Douglas, Arizona to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, and they had the best of accommodations, Pullman sleepers, their own cooks and field kitchen aboard also. Oh, he says, mother, when Battery B of the 10th Field gets over there the Kaiser will sit up and take notice. I couldn't help but smile at his enthusiasm so he replied, well, if he don't we will make him and of course we all hope that they will make him; but you can see self-confidence pictured on all the faces of our men and determination as well and it is a splendid sight to see troops marching along with the bound-to-win air about them; then it seems that victory must most assuredly be ours. Well my son was lucky to obtain leave of absence to go with us over to New York City, seeking relatives whom I had not seen in 38 years; a long time and I couldn't help but notice the changes everywhere. Oh you were scarcely aware of it; we were on Broadway, that wonderful thoroughfare; here certainly spring was budding in all its glory; now those chic damsels of Broadway carry a tiny know how to dress and also how to wear their dress to the best of advantage and it seemed as if the whole of Broadway had budded out in purple; this spring that lovely color was worn in all its alluring shades from the most delicate and dainty lavender down to the deep rich royal shades of purple and the most wonderful knitting bags that the ladies carried; really they have become a general acquisition to my ladies toilet—some were leading a pet poodle by a little silver chain or a dainty ribbon with one hand and holding a knitting bag in the other and I wondered who was taking the airing; the poodle or the knitting bag, perhaps both. The shop keepers also knew how to arrange their windows to make them so attractive that you can't help but gaze at everything. We also saw the famous Wolworth building 54 stories high and it really looks as if the science of architecture had reached its zenith when it erected that.

I met my sister in the afternoon and of course words would be inadequate in describing the joy of that meeting. Her young son fell in love with my soldier son and he repeatedly old his mother, now mamma, don't you let that soldier boy go away, we will keep him here, but of course all the children love the soldiers; but it was truly astonishing to see the service flags displayed in New York City; there were scarcely can pass a house but what was displaying service flags and some of the tall buildings, 4 and 5, so there must be a vast army gone from New York City. That evening we went over to the Bronx to see a brother; we traveled by elevated. The Bronx is considered to be about the best apartment district in New York. We spent a pleasant evening; returned to my sister's for the night at 11 p. m. but it really seems as if New York never sleep; the cars were about as crowded going as they were coming and when we awakened in the morning the elevated, the street cars and taxis were all running so it just looked to me as if they had not time to sleep in this place and I told my sister that you must certainly have signs up here that say we never sleep and then we both laughed at the joke. On Sunday we visited another sister who resides at Allwood, N. J. On our return from there we saw another troop train filled with soldiers, soldiers everywhere you go; soldiers in abundance, always courteous and chivalrous to the ladies, especially to the aged and infirm, just as we would want our own boys to be. I couldn't help but think that this great New York with its millions of lights gleaming at night would certainly be a great target for the Boche airplanes; thank goodness there lies a vast ocean between. My heart also thrilled with pride at the thought that I had two sons who had volunteered to help defend this beautiful land of my adoption and so the time passed swiftly; my son often asking me questions about the folks at home. I told him of the good work the Red Cross had been doing and is still doing; told him of one patriotic old soul that I thought was doing her bit at knitting and had then knit 37 pairs of socks. He gave a guess and missed the name so I told him it was Aunt Jane Showers who has up to date knit 39 pairs of socks, 2 pairs of wristlets and is now finishing a sweatercoat. We saw, good Aunt Jane is a real soldier. He also wanted me to tell his kind friend, Mrs. M. E. Parney that he thanked her very much for the soldier's bible she sent him, that he and his good chum, Mike, had spent many hours reading the same so truly our soldier boys remember the many kind acts done them and the dear gifts from home far outweigh everything else of value. The water supply for Camp Merritt comes from the mountains and they discovered that poison enough had been placed in these springs to have killed the whole population, soldiers and civilians; so now, Mrs. Beveridge informed me, these springs are guarded night and day by the military police.

We left Camp Merritt at daybreak Monday morning, April 8. Our boy accompanied us to the station. His father and his lady friend, Miss Hamilton and myself, words can never explain how we all had dreaded this long leaving-taking that we knew must surely come; he must report to duty that day and his father had contracted a severe cold so we thought it best to go early; then also Mr. Beveridge could explain to us which terminal to take to Jersey City as he makes his trip each week day morning over to New York to his work. We heard the whistle of the incoming train so I managed to say as a parting word: "My dear boy, I consign you into the hands of God and I pray that in His infinite mercy he will return you safely to me." "Yes, mother," he says, "I will come back." He kissed his lady friend and father and the conductor shouts all aboard. I can ever see his lonely figure erect and stern wending its way in that gray dawn back to camp to duty and I knew as I gazed after him through my blinding tears that the parting had been as hard for him as it had been for us and it must have been more so. He stood between love and duty and duty must prevail especially at this critical time. It is now six long weeks since we have last heard from him so we hope that he is safe now in France.

## NOTICE

Beginning June 2nd., the City Bakery will close until 5 o'clock every Sunday. Get your baked goods Saturdays.

# THE CITY BAKERY

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Largest and best equipped floral establishment in Western Michigan

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# Real Estate News

## Get Our Prices on Farms

120 ACRES in Orleans township, on State reward road, excellent clay loam soil, modern dairy or stock barn, sanitary in every detail, water in barn, large silo attached, modern 6 room semi-bungalow, moist air heat, 8 room house with running water and furnace. One of the best farms in Ionia county.

24 ACRES with fruit inside limits of Belding.

10 ACRES with good house and barn and out buildings near Chadwick, soil clay loam, seeded to timothy and clover, stock and tools go with place.

80 ACRES. A bargain near Kent City, living water, 6 room house, new hip roof barn, 170 bearing apple trees, clover meadow.

35 ACRES at Wood's Corners, on Ionia road, new house, small barn will sell at an attractive price.

50 ACRES within limits of Greenville, 6 room cottage, out building, fruit. Can take city property in part.

30 ACRES 2 1-2 miles from Belding, clay loam soil, good house and small barn; must sell to close an estate.

160 ACRES at Smyrna, good building with running water, good soil, excellent location.

80 ACRES excellent farming and pasture land near Orleans village, good windmill and well, no buildings.

If you are looking for a house in Belding at about one-half cost of construction, see us.

## W. E. LITTLE

MANAGER REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT.

Phone 70 :-- Commercial Bank :-- Res. 301

## Pere Marquette train time at Belding

Corrected March 1, 1918

To Ionia and Detroit, 11:42 a. m.  
To Greenville and Big Rapids, 4:33 p. m.  
To Lowell and Grand Rapids, 10:37 a. m.; 2:00 p. m., and 7:03 p. m.  
To Greenville and Saginaw, 7:56 a. m.; 5:35 p. m.  
Daily.

## 1898—1908—1918

Three Signal Years in American History

1898—War with Spain! Humanity and liberty brought by America to oppressed Cuba and Philippines, the United States taking its firm place as a world power.

1908—Peace and prosperity! America's battleship fleet, "Ready for a fight or a frolic," as Admiral "Bob" Evans remarked, gone on its 45,000-mile, round-the-world cruise, pointing out to all nations the fact that we had become a power to be reckoned with, and a cruise which European experts said could not be completed. But it was!

1918—America in the Great War, throwing its every energy into the combat to make the world a decent place to live in. In 1898, TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY, one of the captains of the Michigan Naval Reserve, served through the Spanish war as a lieutenant on the "Yosemite," which was manned by Michigan's Reserves.

In 1908, TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY prepared the battleship fleet for its famous cruise and from assistant

secretary became Secretary of the Navy in the Roosevelt cabinet.

In 1918, TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY, again a volunteer, a Commander in the Third Naval District, including New York City and Brooklyn navy yard, the most important naval division in the country.

A man of national distinction, of unflinching devotion to his country, of able service in peace and war, of high character, genial, approachable and sympathetic, TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY is a man on whom not only all Republicans but all the people of Michigan can unite.

In this crisis, the office demands the ablest and most experienced man available to help conduct the nation's affairs. TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY is such a man. Every Michigan voter supports his nomination and election with confidence in his record, his ability and his 100 percent patriotism.

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